



STATE OF OREGON

INTEROFFICE MEMO

CONFIDENTIAL

TO: Governor Atiyeh

DATE: October 18, 1984

FROM: Bob Oliver *BO*

SUBJECT: "Dumping" Contingency Plans

This memorandum is not intended to set out a comprehensive or detailed plan for dealing with people who might be "dumped" by the Rajneesh. It is intended only to outline actions which would have to be tailored to suit a great variety of scenarios which may arise.

Early on, in discussions with Gerry Thompson and me, Leo Hegstrom and Keith Putman announced results of their surveys of DHR programs. For the most part, the "street people" appear to be relatively able-bodied, unemployed individuals who are not accompanied by children. While the Employment Division's services would be available to help them locate jobs, prospects of employment for most of them do not appear bright. Other social service programs within DHR do not address this group of individuals.

Contacts already have been made with various churches and other charitable enterprises in the private sector, calling their attention to the problem and encouraging them to deal with the "dumped" homeless. (As you are aware, public reports of the numbers of such individuals thus far have been found to be greatly exaggerated. These resources in the private sector so far have been able to handle those coming to them.)

The worst case would be a sudden, mass "dumping" numbering hundreds, either in Portland or - worse yet - in Madras or some small community across the mountains.

Officials of the Oregon National Guard have told me they have the capability, within a few hours, of assembling the equipment and personnel to feed anywhere from 1,200 to 1,500 individuals. While this would be a novel use of the facilities, the Guard has experience in setting up such operations on short notice because of their involvement in feeding personnel who must fight forest fires.

So far as shelter is concerned, deteriorating weather conditions (particularly in Central Oregon) could rule out the use of tents. Several armories are available - although this would cause cancellation of public events already scheduled, and could interfere with assembly of Guard personnel summoned to deal with disorder or other kinds of emergency.

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Guard personnel engaged in any of these activities, for the most part, would have to be ordered out on "State Active Duty." This means the cost ^{would} have to be paid out of General Fund monies, including food. These costs could be substantial if the services have to be rendered over any considerable length of time. It would be appropriate in such a case to seek Emergency Board reimbursement of the Military Department. Early on in any such operation, contacts ought to be made with the Legislative Fiscal staff and the presiding officers, so Emergency Board members can be made aware of this potential item on their agenda - and hopefully, give advance authorization.

Leo, Keith, Gerry and I discussed at length means of buying transportation back home for "street people" brought into Oregon from other states. Years ago, AFS had funds available for this. Such is no longer the case. Moreover, the federal government (which puts up most of the money for AFS) actively discourages states from undertaking the "dumping" of potential clients on other states. We have been unable to identify any existing appropriation of state monies which lawfully could be used to provide this transportation - other than through allocation by the Emergency Board.